

United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades
Board of Directors Meeting
September 24, 2021

Minutes

Present: Betsy Alderman, Kevin Anderson, Robert Beville, Noelle Branning, Gary L. Bryant, Cindy S. Carfore, Cora Cisneros Molloy, John Clinger, Roger J. Desjarlais, Jerry Elliott, David L. Fry, Barbara Jean Hartman, Cynthia M. Hawkins, Beth Hendry, Michelle Hudson, Matthew Humphreys, Sally Jackson, Calli Johnson, John Joyce, Kevin Karnes, Andrea Kershaw, David Klein, Victoria Loyola, David Lucas, Paul Makurat, Charlotte Miller, Bill Motzer, Stan Nelson, Scott Nygaard, Dan O'Berski, Patricia O'Donnell, David Oliver, Harlan C. Parrish, Steve Pontius, Karen L. Ryan, Bryan Simmering, Mary Vlasak Snell, Dotty J. St. Amand, Tom Uhler, Corey Vertich, Darren Wallace, Earnest J. Wilks

Staff: Bryelle Benzing, Daniel Benzing, Kim Berghs, Connie Boyd, Jennifer Carolluzzi, Felicitas Carrillo, Edelyn Castellon, Nancy Coker, Patrice Cunningham, Manuel Diaz, Cheryl Donish, Kimberly Fay, Nzingha Gaines, Victoria Guillard, Linda Hafner, Brenda Hayes, Angela Jackson, Jeannine Joy, Prisca Mendez Asaro, Jennylyn Mitchell, Madison Mitchell, Craig Norling, Hannah Pelle, Claudia Portalatin, Lisette Quintero, Alexis Rodriguez, Toni Rozelle-Rosio, Tish Sargent, Amy Singer, Richard Swartz, Marcia Turner

Special Guests: Fred Kobie

1. United Way Chair, Roger Desjarlais, called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. via zoom with a quorum present.
2. The minutes of the August 20, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting were approved as presented.
3. HR and Operations Director, Connie Boyd, presented a Live United Award to Fred Kobie of Kobie Kooling for assisting with all the A/C issues at both Main Campus and Bell Tower. Fred was also very generous in donating a new unit to the Main Campus. President, Jeannine Joy, shared a heartfelt video made by staff member, Jennifer Carolluzzi about why she gives to United Way.
4. Community Impact Chair, John Clinger, shared that over the years, the capacity of the surrounding United Ways have changed, and recently we have explored collaborations with the surrounding United Way's to better serve the Okeechobee community. Staff has worked with United Way of St. Lucie County to take on Okeechobee. Their board approved this on September 15, 2021. There was a motion to allow United Way of Saint Lucie County to move into Okeechobee County. This transition would begin October 1, 2021, allowing Saint Lucie to campaign for their next fund distribution cycle. Between January-June 2022 our United Way would provide some funding to our existing partners with Saint Lucie beginning total funding and oversight July 2022. The motion was unanimously approved as presented.

Publix Tools for Schools donated \$100,760 in gift cards to United Way. Every Lee County School will be provided with \$500 worth of cards representing over \$50,000 going out to the schools. United Way teamed up with The Price Foundation, FineMark National Bank & Trust, and Midwest Food Bank to provide snacks to our healthcare workers at Lee Health for a total of six weeks. Board Chair, Roger Dejarlais, communicated that Lee BOCC intends to partner with United Way to distribute \$20 million in American Rescue Plan Act dollars over the next 3 years. This is in addition to

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the annual campaign. Dollars will be utilized for capacity building and direct services for Lee County nonprofits. As the planning evolves, board members will be notified of volunteer opportunities in the oversight and review process of applications.

5. President, Jeannine Joy, indicated that the Mission Statement and Guiding Principles will be reviewed on October 21, at 8:00AM at the Main Campus. All board members are welcomed to attend. Invite for participation will be sent soon.

6. Board Treasurer, Cindy Hawkins, states that auditor's request list is proceeding accordingly and should be finalized in October. Now that we have a new CFO, auditing will begin on time in 2022.

7. Campaign Co-Chairs Noelle Branning and Corey Vertich, reported that last year we had 174 pacesetters and to date we have 131 with 5 weeks to go. They thanked Alexis de Tocqueville Chair David Lucas for working so hard in securing over \$3M from Tocqueville members so far. Campaign Kickoff is November 3rd at Caloosa Sound and Convention Center with almost 400 tickets sold. All board members are encouraged to attend and bring potential donors to the program. Tickets can be purchased through the United Way website.

8. Volunteer Center Chair, Steve Pontius, states that Reading Pals is still virtual due to COVID. We are getting valuable tax dollars into community pockets through the VITA Program and will be revving up for volunteers starting next month. Hosting Family Service Learning Fair on October 23rd at the Bell Tower courtyard highlighting non-profits to get youth and our next generation involved in volunteering.

9. United Way 211 Chair, Gary Bryant, shared that 5,200 calls were received in August. Housing is still in high demand along with utilities. We have three new Marketplace Health Navigators trained to assist with medical insurance. Mission United received 111 calls, most from Vietnam era veterans. Referred 500 agencies to assist in the process.

10. Building Committee Chair, David Fry, indicated that inspections are being held due to not finalizing the parking agreement. The issues are being worked through and we will continue our due diligence work. Anticipate all to be wrapped up by next Board meeting in November to present to the board.

11. President, Jeannine Joy, directed everyone to the United Way website for a complete tool kit to aid companies with employee campaigns. The Employee Campaign Tool Kit can be found at: <https://unitedwaylee.org/employee-campaigns/>

12. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting will be November 5, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jeannine Joy
President & CEO